



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

Date: November 30, 2017

Subj: Inspection Report
Vorsteveld Farm LLP

From: Solanch Pastrana-Del Valle

Thru: Denny Dart

To: File

I. Facility Information

- A. *Facility Name:* Vorsteveld Farm LLP
- B. *Facility Locations:*
Vorsteveld Farm: 4531 Jersey Street, Panton, Vermont 05491
Arnold Bay Farm: 2066 Arnold Bay Road, Panton, Vermont 05491
Exline Farm: 1033 Adams Ferry Road, Panton, Vermont 05491
- C. *Facility Contact:* Hans Vorsteveld, Owner
168 Spaulding Road
Panton, Vermont 05491
802-475-2222, 801-475-2033
- D. *NPDES ID Number:* None

II. Background Information

- A. *Date and time of inspection:*
Facility entrance: August 30, 2017, 11:30 pm
Facility exit: August 30, 2017, 4:00 pm
- B. *Weather Conditions:* Mid-60s. Clear.
- C. *US EPA Representative(s):* Solanch Pastrana-Del Valle, Denny Dart
- D. *State/Local Representative(s):*
Chris (Chip) Gianforno,
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT-DEC)
Steven Cash, Water Quality Specialist,
Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VT-AAFM)

E. Federally Enforceable Requirements Covered During the Inspection:
CAFO requirements under the Clean Water Act at 40 C.F.R. Part 122.23.

F. Previous Enforcement Actions: No federal enforcement.

III. Type and Purpose of Inspection

Under a National Enforcement Initiative (“NEI”) aimed at preventing animal waste from contaminating surface and ground water, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) has committed to inspect Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (“CAFOs”) in priority watersheds across the country. CAFOs are a subset of livestock and poultry animal feeding operations (“AFOs”) that meet the regulatory thresholds of a number of animals for various animal types. Animals are kept and raised in confined situations for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period and feed is brought to the animals rather than the animals grazing or otherwise feeding in pastures, fields, or on a range of land during the confined period. In addition to inspecting, EPA is testing new sampling methods to identify the sources of bacteria and nutrients in ambient waters.

IV. Facility Description

Vorsteveld Farm LLP (“the Farm”) is a dairy operation owned by the Vorsteveld family. Three brothers, Hans, Gerard and Rudy Vorsteveld, own Vosteveld Farm LLP. Vorsteveld Farm is divided into three farms; the main farm located on 4530 Jersey Street; Exline Farm located on 1032 Adams Ferry Road; and Arnold Bay Farm located in 2066 Arnold Bay Road.

At the time of the inspection; the main farm had 1,050 milk and dry cows and 600 heifers/young stock. Arnold Bay Farm had 120 milk and dry cows and 360 heifers/ young stock. Exline Farm had no milk or dry cows and 360 heifers/young stock.

Proximity of Water Bodies

The main farm is located about 5,460 feet (1.03 miles) uphill and west of Dead Creek. A tributary to Dead Creek flows under the farm, then along a ditch. Two tributaries run south of the production area. (*See maps and photos attached*).

Arnold Bay Farm is located about 3,570 feet (0.68 miles) uphill and east of Lake Champlain. Two tributaries to Lake Champlain run less than 100 feet from the barnyard area. (*See maps and photos attached*).

Exline Farm is located about 4,115 feet (0.78 miles) of Arnold Bay. The tributary runs less than hundred feet east of the barnyard. (*See maps and photos attached*).

V. Inspection

Denny Dart and Solanch Pastrana-Del Valle (“EPA Inspectors”) talked by phone with Mr. Vorsteveld on Tuesday morning and announced the inspection.

Vorsteveld Main Farm

Entry Procedures

Inspectors arrived at the main farm at approximately 11:30AM and showed credentials to Hans Vorsteveld. Chris (Chip) Gianforno, of VT-DEC and Steven Cash of VT-AAFM, met the EPA inspectors at the farm. Mr. Hans Vorsteveld guided the inspectors thru the farm.

Manure Management

All three of the Vorsteveld Farms have their own manure pits. The main farm collects manure and milk house waste in two lagoons located downhill of most of the production area. The farm was in the process of constructing a third lagoon.

Silage Storage

A silage leachate high flow system captures concentrated run-off from silage storage. Concentrated flow is diverted to the lagoon. When it rains, diluted flow is diverted to a vegetated swale.

Mortality Storage

The mortality pile is located above the silage leachate system, so any rain water flowing through the mortality pile will get diverted to the lagoon or vegetated swale. Mortalities from all the farm is done at the main farm.

Sampling

The EPA inspectors accompanied the Vermont inspectors as they walked the perimeter of the farm. EPA took several samples during and after the inspection.

Sample ID	Date	Time	Collected by*	Description	Latitude	Longitude
VT 17-3	8/30/2017	11:55 AM	DD	Culvert on east side of Vorsteveld Farm	44° 07' 44.89" N	73° 20' 52.77" W
VT 17-4	8/30/2017	12:35 PM	DD	Main manure pit on Vorsteveld Farm	44° 07' 49.58" N	73° 20' 51.13" W
VT 17-5	8/30/2017	12:50 PM	DD	Barn C - Main Farm on Vorsteveld Farm	44° 07' 48.51" N	73° 20' 56.97" W
VT 17-6	8/30/2017	2:30 PM	SPD	Dead creek on Pantan Rd	44° 08' 59.95" N	73° 19' 12.29" W

* DD = Denny Dart; SPD = Solanch Pastrana-Del Valle

Arnold Bay Farm

The inspectors arrived at Arnold Bay Farm at approximately 1:30 PM. Mr. Hans Vorsteveld guided the inspectors thru the farm.

Manure Management

Arnold Bay Farm has two lagoons, one located downhill of the production area and the other to the northwest of the property. The lagoon had an adequate freeboard at the moment of the inspection.

Silage Storage

The silage storage is located to the far east of the property. Leachate is diverted to the eastern pit

Exline Farm

The inspectors arrived at Exline Farm at approximately 3:00PM. An employee greeted the inspectors and authorized them to walk the property.

Inspectors walked to the hay bunk located north of the farm. The hay bunk was empty at the moment of the inspection. The inspectors also walked the vegetated perimeter north of the lagoon. A culvert pipe was observed to the east side of the lagoon.

Manure Management

Exline collects manure in a lagoon pond located north of the barnyard. Manure is pushed by an employee.

VI. Exit Interview

Inspectors, Denny Dart, Solanch Pastrana-Del Valle, Chris Gianforno and Steven Cash gave a brief out-brief to Hans Vorsteveld, after inspecting Vorsteveld Main Farm. Hans Vorsteveld, had to leave mid-way the inspection, therefore no complete out-brief was provided.

A summary of what inspectors communicated:

- Inspectors expressed concerns regarding the leachate management system proximity to the open field located east of it.
- Inspectors mentioned the proximity of the open ditch, located south of the expansion project.

Following the inspections, the inspectors took water samples of Dead Creek at the point where Panton Road crosses the creek.